

South Dakota HOGS AND PIGS

News Release

December 28, 1999

HOG NUMBERS DOWN FROM LAST YEAR

SIoux FALLS, December 28, 1999 --The state's December 1 inventory of all hogs and pigs was 1.26 million head, down 10 percent from a year ago and down 8 percent from last quarter, according to USDA's South Dakota Ag Statistics Service.

Breeding stock totaled 120,000 head, down 8 percent from 1998. This was the smallest December 1 breeding herd recorded since these estimates began in 1963. **Market hogs** totaled 1,140,000 head, down 10 percent from 1998 and 8 percent below last quarter.

The September through November **pig crop** was 507,000 head, down 9,000 head from last year. During the quarter 57,000 sows farrowed, down 5 percent from 1998. Pigs per litter averaged 8.9, compared to 8.6 a year earlier. Producers intend to farrow 55,000 sows during December through February 2000, 10 percent above the actual farrowings a year ago. Intentions for March through May 2000 are 55,000 sows, 8 percent below the actual farrowings a year earlier.

The number of hog operations in South Dakota for 1999 was 2,700 farms, a decrease of 500 farms from a year earlier. Operations by size group and change in 1999 are: 1-99 head, 900 operations, down 200; 100-499 head, 1,200 operations, down 300; 500-999 head, 300 operations, unchanged; 1,000-1,999 head, 160 operations, unchanged; 2,000-4,999 head, 80 operations, unchanged; and 5,000+ head, 60 operations, unchanged.

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